

### **Drawings**

1. The drawing filed on 6/12/2006 is accepted by the Examiner.

Based on telephone interview and fax inquiry filed on 8/19/2010, with respect to amended claims 1, 2, 4-11, 14, 16-18, 20, 22-23, 25-28 and 30, and also review of prior art of record have been fully considered and are persuasive.

The claims 1-30 are allowed.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

This invention relates generally, to a method and apparatus for identifying pathology in brain images, such as brain tumours in neurological images.

Based on applicant's amendment, with respect to claim 1, the closest prior art of record (Yang ), reference is directed to the radiological arts. More specifically, it provides a semi-automated process for determining the volume of a tumor within a body organ. The invention has particular application to cancer treatment programs and research, but does not teach or suggest, among other things, "determining recessing device the location of the midsagittal plane (MSP) by calculating up to 16 approximated fissure line segments (AFLSs) and removing outlier AFLSs, the outlier AFLSs having a larger angular deviation from the MSP than a predefined threshold; calculating processing device tile ratio of the number of outlier AFLSs to the number of inlier AFLSs, the inlier AFLSs having a smaller angular deviation from the MSP than the predefined threshold; and comparing by the processing device the ratio with a further predetermined threshold value, the ratio exceeding the further predetermined threshold value when pathology is present in the brain image".

These key features in combination with the other features of the claimed invention are neither taught nor suggested by (Yang) prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Contact Information**

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Seyed Azarian whose telephone number is (571) 272-7443. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached at (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published application may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information about the PAIR system, see [http:// pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov). Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/SEYED AZARIAN/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2624

September 27, 2010